

CLAIMS:

1. A global animation system, comprising:
a pool of reusable characteristics; and
a pool of available artists,
wherein a member of the pool of available artists selects at least one reusable characteristic from the pool of reusable characteristics to develop a character or feature.
2. The global animation system of Claim 1, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics contains meta-data relating to the character or feature.
3. The global animation system of Claim 2, wherein the meta-data includes at least one of a control button, a preset feature, a macro, and a computer program to control the at least one reusable characteristic.
4. The global animation system of Claim 1, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is developed at least in part by an administrator.
5. The global animation system of Claim 1, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is developed at least in part by at least one member of the pool of available artists.
6. The global animation system of Claim 1, wherein each member of the pool of available artists is reviewed by an administrator prior to entry into the pool.

7. The global animation system of Claim 1, wherein the member is selected based on at least one of a skill set, experience with a similar task, response time, cost, a national law, an international treaty, security, and a preference of a producer, director, or client.

8. The global animation system of Claim 1, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is configured to accept input to update the at least one reusable characteristic while the at least one reusable characteristic is in use.

9. The global animation system of Claim 1, wherein the member may update the at least one character or feature in a pool of characters or in a pool of features.

10. The global animation system of Claim 9, wherein an administrator may review the updated at least one character or feature prior to accepting the updated at least one character or feature.

11. The global animation system of Claim 9, wherein the updated at least one character or feature is viewable by a customer.

12. The global animation system of Claim 11, wherein the customer may post feedback viewable by at least one of the member and an administrator.

13. The global animation system of Claim 12, further comprising a messenger configured to notify at least one of the member and the administrator of the feedback.

14. A method for managing an animation project, comprising:

obtaining an animation project;
disassembling the animation project into at least one individual task;
assigning the at least one individual task to an artist,
wherein the artist completes the at least one individual task using at least one
characteristic stored in a pool of reusable characteristics.

15. The method of Claim 14, wherein the assigning step is based on at least one of a skill set, experience with a similar task, response time, cost, a national law, an international treaty, security, and a preference of a producer, director, or client.

16. The method of Claim 14, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics contains meta-data relating to at least one character or feature of an animation project.

17. The method of Claim 16, wherein the meta-data includes at least one of a control button, a preset feature, a macro, and a computer program to control the at least one reusable characteristic.

18. The method of Claim 14, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is developed at least in part by an administrator.

19. The method of Claim 14, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is developed at least in part by the artist.

20. The method of Claim 14, wherein the artist is a member of a pool of available artists and each member of the pool of available artists is reviewed by an administrator prior to entry into the pool.

21. The global animation system of Claim 14, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is configured to accept input to update the at least one reusable characteristic while the at least one reusable characteristic is in use.

22. The global animation system of Claim 14, wherein the member may update the at least one character or feature in a pool of characters or in a pool of features.

23. The global animation system of Claim 22, wherein an administrator may review the updated at least one character or feature prior to accepting the updated at least one character or feature.

24. The global animation system of Claim 22, wherein the updated at least one character or feature is viewable by a customer.

25. The global animation system of Claim 24, wherein the customer may post feedback viewable by at least one of the artist and an administrator.

26. The global animation system of Claim 25, further comprising a messenger configured to notify at least one of the artist and the administrator of the feedback.

27. A method for searching for reusable characteristics, comprising:
searching a pool of reusable characteristics for at least one first characteristic;
identifying at least one second characteristic related to the at least one first characteristic;
notifying a user of the at least one second characteristic;
locating a file containing the at least one second characteristic; and
providing the file.

28. The method of Claim 27, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is created at least in part by an administrator.

29. The method of Claim 27, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is created at least in part by an artist.

30. The method of Claim 29, wherein the artist is a member of a pool of available artists.

31. The method of Claim 27, wherein the identifying is based on at least one of a first identifier associated with the at least one first characteristic and a second identifier associated with the at least one second characteristic.

32. The method of Claim 27, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is configured to accept input to update the at least one reusable characteristic while the at least one reusable characteristic is in use.

33. A system for searching for reusable characteristics, comprising:
means for searching a pool of reusable characteristics for at least one first characteristic;
means for identifying at least one second characteristic related to the at least one first characteristic;
means for notifying a user of the at least one second characteristic;
means for locating a file containing the at least one second characteristic; and
means for providing the file.

34. The apparatus of Claim 33, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is created at least in part by an administrator.

35. The apparatus of Claim 33, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is created at least in part by an artist.

36. The apparatus of Claim 35, wherein the artist is a member of a pool of available artists.

37. The apparatus of Claim 33, wherein the means for identifying uses at least one of a first identifier associated with the at least one first characteristic and a second identifier associated with the at least one second characteristic.

38. The apparatus of Claim 33, wherein the pool of reusable characteristics is configured to accept input to update the at least one first or second reusable characteristic while the at least one first or second reusable characteristic is in use.